## **RESOLUTION NO. 11392**

## A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO HIRE AN ARBORIST TO SUPPORT CITYWIDE TREE PROTECTION AND PLANTING SERVICES AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE TREE PLANTING AND REPLACEMENT FUND 226

**WHEREAS,** trees provide an essential contribution to the general welfare, economic vitality, and overall beauty and character of Folsom; and

**WHEREAS,** the City Council adopted a Tree Preservation Ordinance (Folsom Municipal Code Chapter 12.16) in 1995 primarily to establish and maintain tree cover and to promote conservation of tree resources; and

**WHEREAS,** the City Council established a Tree Planting and Replacement Fund (Fund 226) (Folsom Municipal Code Chapter 12.16) that may be used for tree planting and revegetation projects such as parkways, parks, planting of trees along public trails and beautification projects, to purchase property for tree mitigation sites, or beautification projects, for the retention of a city arborist, or for the development, staffing or implementation of an urban forestry program; and

**WHEREAS,** the City currently has one arborist (Urban Forester) responsible for a wide range of services associated with implementing the Tree Preservation Ordinance and management of the Tree Planting and Replacement Fund; and

**WHEREAS,** the demand for arborist services far exceeds limited staff capacity given consistently high levels of development activity (new construction and renovations), capital projects, and City Council initiatives involving arborist services; and

**WHEREAS**, to address this need, staff proposes the addition of a new second Arborist position to assist the Urban Forester implement the Tree Preservation Ordinance and tree planting projects; and

**WHEREAS,** funding for the Arborist position will be budgeted for in the Tree Planting and Replacement Fund (Fund 226) with an projected cost of \$156,265 for salary and benefits in Fiscal Year 2025-26 with annual increases (merit and inflation) in subsequent fiscal years; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Folsom authorizes the City Manager to add one Arborist position to the Community Development Department budget in the Tree Planting and Replacement Fund (Fund 226) to hire an Arborist to assist the Urban Forester with implementation of the Tree Preservation Ordinance and planting projects.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025, by the following roll-call vote:

AYES:Councilmember(s):NOES:Councilmember(s):ABSENT:Councilmember(s):ABSTAIN:Councilmember(s):

Sarah Aquino, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Christa Freemantle, CITY CLERK